



WESTPORT

Bristol County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Westport is a town of farms, of beautiful scenery, of people who live from the water, of small businesses and of homes. Each of these aspects of the community is characterized and strengthened by the superb natural resources to be found within the town's borders. The key to Westport's recreational resources also lies within its natural environment.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Fall River on the north and west; Dartmouth on the east; the Atlantic Ocean on the south; and Tiverton and Little Compton, Rhode Island, on the west. Westport is about 8 miles south of Fall River; 8 miles west of New Bedford; 54 miles south of Boston; 26 miles southeast of Providence, Rhode Island; and 203 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 64.40 sq. miles

Land Area: 50.06 sq. miles

Population: 13,852

Density: 277 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(New Bedford Station)

Normal temperature in January.....30.6°F

Normal temperature in July.....73.5°F

Normal annual precipitation.....47.3"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Westport, Fall River East, Tiverton, Fall River

Regional Planning Agency

Southeastern Regional Planning and
Economic Development District

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Fall River



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 636-1003

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1787

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 8,424

Democrats 4,111 48.8 % Republicans 1,271 15.1 % Other parties 3 0.0 % Unenrolled Voters 3,039 36.1 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Westport town, Bristol County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	14,183	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	14,183	100.0
Male.....	6,947	49.0	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	98	0.7
Female.....	7,236	51.0	Mexican.....	11	0.1
Under 5 years.....	652	4.6	Puerto Rican.....	25	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	881	6.2	Cuban.....	3	-
10 to 14 years.....	947	6.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	59	0.4
15 to 19 years.....	878	6.2	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	14,085	99.3
20 to 24 years.....	658	4.6	White alone.....	13,836	97.6
25 to 34 years.....	1,719	12.1	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,257	15.9	Total population.....	14,183	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,389	16.8	In households.....	14,137	99.7
55 to 59 years.....	1,020	7.2	Householder.....	5,386	38.0
60 to 64 years.....	708	5.0	Spouse.....	3,388	23.9
65 to 74 years.....	1,144	8.1	Child.....	4,097	28.9
75 to 84 years.....	725	5.1	Own child under 18 years.....	2,733	19.3
85 years and over.....	205	1.4	Other relatives.....	722	5.1
Median age (years).....	41.0	(X)	Under 18 years.....	243	1.7
18 years and over.....	11,113	78.4	Nonrelatives.....	544	3.8
Male.....	5,420	38.2	Unmarried partner.....	258	1.8
Female.....	5,693	40.1	In group quarters.....	46	0.3
21 years and over.....	10,694	75.4	Institutionalized population.....	29	0.2
62 years and over.....	2,481	17.5	Noninstitutionalized population.....	17	0.1
65 years and over.....	2,074	14.6	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	912	6.4	Total households.....	5,386	100.0
Female.....	1,162	8.2	Family households (families).....	4,080	75.8
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,561	29.0
One race.....	14,071	99.2	Married-couple family.....	3,388	62.9
White.....	13,901	98.0	With own children under 18 years.....	1,272	23.6
Black or African American.....	24	0.2	Female householder, no husband present.....	483	9.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	20	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	198	3.7
Asian.....	70	0.5	Nonfamily households.....	1,306	24.2
Asian Indian.....	13	0.1	Householder living alone.....	1,063	19.7
Chinese.....	19	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	477	8.9
Filipino.....	11	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,722	32.0
Japanese.....	5	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,508	28.0
Korean.....	15	0.1	Average household size.....	2.62	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	3.01	(X)
Other Asian ¹	7	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-	Total housing units.....	6,143	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	5,386	87.7
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	1	-	Vacant housing units.....	757	12.3
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	1	-	occasional use.....	598	9.7
Some other race.....	53	0.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.6	(X)
Two or more races.....	112	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.5	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	5,386	100.0
White.....	14,009	98.8	Owner-occupied housing units.....	4,460	82.8
Black or African American.....	52	0.4	Renter-occupied housing units.....	926	17.2
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	50	0.4	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.73	(X)
Asian.....	84	0.6	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.10	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	18	0.1			
Some other race.....	90	0.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 48

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Westport, which is situated in the New Bedford-Fall River Area, is served by the airport and port facilities of New Bedford. In addition, Interstate 195 and State Routes 24 and 140 provide access to the airports, ports, and intermodal facilities of Providence and Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 88 and 177, U.S. Route 6, and Interstate Route 195.

Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service in Westport, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible.

Bus

Westport is a member of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA), which provides fixed route service between Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth, and New Bedford. SRTA and the Council on Aging also provide paratransit services for the elderly and disabled.

Other

Fall River Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, has 2 asphalt runways 1,600' and 3,950' long. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision. New Bedford Municipal Airport is a Primary Commercial Service (PR) facility with scheduled passenger flights. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,997' and 5,000' long. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)

[The UMass Dartmouth Theatre Company](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.